

7024-538:JVD:358645

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please cancel claims 64-69 without prejudice to their consideration in a continuing application.**

1-43 cancelled.

44. (previously presented) A method for heat treating a spring, comprising:

providing a coil spring with a first outer diameter and a first length fabricated from a shape memory material;

providing a member defining a chamber with an inner diameter and a length, the chamber length being greater than the length of the spring and the chamber inner diameter being greater than the outer diameter of the spring;

placing the spring in the chamber;

heating the chamber and spring to more than about 400 degrees C. and less than about 600 degrees C. for a period of more than about two minutes; and

permitting the spring outer diameter to grow to the inner diameter of the chamber, and permitting the spring length to grow to the length of the chamber.

45. (original) The method of claim 44 which further comprises:

heating the chamber and spring after said permitting to more than about 900 degrees C. for a period of less than about ten seconds; and

quenching the chamber and spring in water.

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46. (original) The method of claim 44 which further comprises:  
removing the spring from the chamber after said permitting;  
putting the spring in a fuel rich flame for more than about one second and less than about five seconds, said putting being after said removing.

47. (original) The method of claim 46 which further comprises quenching the spring in water after said putting.

48-69 cancelled

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